



Social Action

NEWS LETTER

L. XXI, I

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THE UNITED CHRISTIAN MISSIONARY SOCIETY
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CHURCH AND ECONOMIC LIFE TOUR JULY 1-18, 1957

A three week Church and Economic Life Tour, July 1-18, 1957, covering a dozen states in the East, South and Mid-west will be conducted by the Department of Social Welfare, U.C.M.S. There will be visits to T.V.A., coal mines, steel mills, auto factories, and the headquarters of business, labor and government leaders.

- Cost: \$175 - 185 for travel, meals, and hotel
- Write Mr. Barton Hunter, 222 South Downey Avenue, Indianapolis 3, for details.

HUNGARIAN REFUGEES

It is possible that more than the early total of 21,500 Hungarian refugees will be admitted into the United States as has been suggested by President Eisenhower, must be acted upon by Congress. The 6,200 Hungarians came in under the Refugee Relief Act and are here on permanent visas. They came under the category of "aliens who escaped from behind the Iron Curtain countries to temporary asylum in Western Europe" (38,300 refugees had already come in under this category). The rest of the Hungarians already here and those coming will be "on parole" and specific arrangements are made by Congress.

The report shows that the overwhelming majority of Hungarian refugees are professional and white collar workers, craftsmen and students. Only a very few are skilled laborers, farm workers or domestics. *There are no children available for adoption.* Those who have crossed the border came with friends or relatives and are being held until parents or near relatives appear. About 62% of the people are Roman Catholic, 25% are Protestant, 10% are Jewish and 4% are other.

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U. S. PRESTIGE SOARS DURING MIDDLE-EAST HUNGARY CRISIS

A member of the U. S. Mission to the United Nations reports a significant incident which occurred a few hours after the American Government cast its vote against British-French-Israeli aggression in the Middle East. An acquaintance from an Asian delegation rushed up to shake his hand and embrace him. Then he exclaimed "at last you are with us."

But America's positive action in the Middle-East crises was but one of the events taking place in the late Fall of 1956 that boosted our prestige tremendously around the world. Almost concurrently with the attack on Egypt, the Soviet Union brutally stamped out—or tried to stamp out—a workers revolt against communism in Hungary.

The British-French-Israeli attack on Egypt and Soviet repression of Hungary at first stunned the world. But in the battle for the minds of men around the world both incidents added up to a substantial gain for the United States. We had in fact won a great victory without firing a shot or contributing a dollar.

America's gain and the Soviet loss was in marked contrast to circumstances a few months ago. Then Russia was on the move propagandawise with good-will visits to nearly all Asian and Arab countries. Party Boss Khrushchev and Premier Bulganin were received enthusiastically wherever they went. At the same time the Soviets were beginning to reap the fruit of a two-year program of technical and economic assistance to the underdeveloped areas of the world. They had cemented relationships in neutralist Asia and for the first time in 200 years Russia penetrated the Middle-East politically, economically and culturally.

While Russia was carving out a series of propaganda victories the U. S. was in hot water much of the time with Asian-Arab countries. In the 10th General As-

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SUMMER OPPORTUNITIES FOR 1957

Some type of summer volunteer service is the dream of an increasing number of young people. Numerous and varied opportunities dot the calendar for June, July and August of 1957. Some of these are provided by the Disciples of Christ for their young people and some are offered by the Committee on Ecumenical Voluntary Service Projects of the United Student Christian Council. A listing of all projects, dates and costs is presented here:

Disciples Projects

• **WORK CAMPS.** The Adult Directors' Training Camp will be held at Flanner House, Indianapolis, Indiana, June 10-18. This camp is a training experience to introduce directors and potential directors into work camping procedures and philosophy. The camp this year will provide training for directors of camps for older young people and for those persons who wish to become directors of modified work camp experiences for high school youth. States contemplating state-sponsored work camps for this age group should plan to send their directors to this camp. *Cost:* \$25.00 plus travel.

Flanner House, July 8-August 16. A camp held in this setting offers a unique

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ALTERNATIVES TO CAPITAL PUNISHMENT

Among the several letters received in answer to a recent editorial in these columns opposing capital punishment was one which raised the question what do "you propose in its place?" This is probably the most significant question one can raise regarding capital punishment. Civilized people, Christian or not, are revolted by the thought of the deliberate rubbing out of a human life. It is presumably only complete bankruptcy of alternatives therefore that would lead anyone to say, "We must preserve this barbaric anachronism."

Alternatives Necessary

But must one really have an alternative before rejecting this practice? From the Christian point of view, No! The beginning of righteousness is a resolute turning away from evil even though one does not now see a legitimate alternative to the practice which is supposed—as the lesser of evils—to preserve some value we cherish. Even, therefore, if no alternatives were open, capital punishment would still be wrong. However, there are alternatives.

Crime Deterrent?

Capital punishment is presumed to serve two legitimate purposes. One is to deter crime. The other is to provide for "the punishment of the guilty." Let us begin with the deterrence of crime. Certainly no one would deny that the apprehension and punishment of criminals serves to prevent some persons from participating in certain types of criminal acts (not ordinarily acts of passion or violence committed in the heat of anger). However, there is a real question whether it is the severity of the punishment or the *certainty* that one will be apprehended and punished that is the real deterrent to crime. Many of us believe that it is not new and more stringent laws on our books that are needed. Rather we need a more effective program of crime detection and law enforcement.

Preventive Love

The more profound *and Christian* alternative to such vicious legal reprisals as capital punishment is found in the preventive force of love expressed in terms of understanding and guidance for youth. Those who can bring themselves to delib-

erately murder or kidnap others are pretty lonely and rejected people, one may safely surmise. Real fellowships and acceptance in a normal social group is the beginning phase of prevention of crime. To provide such fellowship for thousands upon thousands of lonely young people is obviously far more difficult than to hang or electrocute a few who express their resentment against society in violence. Nevertheless, this is our Christian alternative.

Who Reforms the Dead?

One comes then to the question of "punishment of the guilty." Let us begin by saying that as Christians we can find no justification for the idea of punishment as retribution or vengeance. That a man "deserves" death because he kills another is the most primitive sort of barbarism. Christian justification of punishment is in the hope of rehabilitation of the offender. Dead people cannot be rehabilitated.

Forgiveness Is Christian

Christianity teaches forgiveness of those who trespass against us—either as individuals or as a society. This is not to say that they will not be punished, but rather that when their punishment or their retraining or their remorse (if present) leads them to a genuine repentance then society should restore them to fellowship. Again the possibility of forgiveness and restoration to fellowship is obviously removed by capital punishment.

Custodian Care

"But what," says someone, "of the psychopath who kills, but is so twisted mentally that there is no possibility of remorse or reformation of character." Here the obvious answer is incarceration, not legalized murder. There is always the possibility of a cure and of the restoration of a normal member to the community *when one has not buried him*. Meanwhile for the sake of society's own soul it is better to give custodial care to the ill (whether they are mentally or physically sick) than to arrogate to ourselves the judgment and foresight of God. "Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God; for it is written, 'Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.'" (Romans 12:19)

BARTON HUNTER

NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY, LTD.

Let's face it and as American Christians challenge our fellow countrymen and fellow human beings to face it; unlimited national sovereignty is one of the prime road blocks to world peace.

This will not be a popular doctrine. Neither Russian nor U. S. military and political leaders will be anxious to accept its implications. So-called patriotic societies, ambitious politicians, and statesmen with good intentions and limited vision will pull out all the antiquated stops on "keeping ourselves free from entangling alliances." But the facts remain. We are—as is every nation and every person—entangled in the lives and destinies of every other nation and every other person. We are *interdependent* members of a world commonwealth—to act otherwise is to risk international suicide.

This means: (1) to move in the direction of peace, we must move in the direction of disarmament *under* international control (2) to move in the direction of peace, we must move in the direction of an international police force under the United Nations (3) to move in the direction of peace, we must move in the direction of referring international problems to the agencies of the United Nations and according them real power to make decisions—strengthening the World Court, for example, and foregoing our veto power in the Security Council.

Some will say, to do this means to sacrifice our principles. This is a danger we run, though we run the same danger even more desperately when we stake our principles, not upon world opinion and good will, but upon military force. Actually, what many people mean when they say this is that we are in danger of sacrificing our selfish political social and economic *interests*. This is the way Russia feels about Marxism and South Africa feels about Apartheid and France feels about colonialism, and the U. S. about the economic power that it swings in the world today.

Sooner or later we must bring our *interests* before the bar of world opinion and defend them, not with H-bombs, but with logic and facts and good will. This way lies peace. This way also lies some *limitation* on national sovereignty in the world.

BARTON HUNTER

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A CALL TO ACTION ON DISARMAMENT

The very effective work of the Special Senate Subcommittee on Disarmament may be discontinued on January 31, 1957, unless there is strong public support for its continuation.

This Subcommittee, in its first year of operation in 1956, held 7 days hearings in Washington and hearings in Boston, Minneapolis and St. Louis. Its members heard many witnesses and its staff issued valuable studies on disarmament. There are at least three important reasons for continuing the work of the Subcommittee:

- With the Administration now coming forward with some far-reaching proposals in the disarmament field there is need for Congress to be kept informed and aware of the possibilities and problems, as well as to offer constructive criticism.
- There is a great need for continued full-time study of this most pressing problem.
- The Subcommittee is the only governmental unit to which private citizens and non-governmental organizations can state their views in public testimony on disarmament.

WRITE Senator Hubert H. Humphrey of Minnesota, Chairman of the Subcommittee, asking him to press for continuation of the Subcommittee's work. More important, ask the members of the Subcommittee to support continuation. Members are: Alexander Wiley of Wis., John Sparkman of Ala., William F. Knowland of California, Russell B. Long of La., Bourke B. Hickenlooper of Iowa, Harry Flood Byrd of Va., Styles Bridges of N. H., Stuart Symington of Mo., John W. Bricker of Ohio, John O. Pastore of I., Leverett Saltonstall of Mass. Address: Senate Office Building, Washington 25, D. C.

THE 85th CONGRESS—PERSONNEL AND PROCEDURES

COMPOSITION OF HOUSE AND SENATE

House of Representatives

The House will contain 233 Democrats and 201 Republicans (one vacancy occurred when Democrat Antonio M. Fernandez of New Mexico died the day after election.)

There is one more Democrat than in the 84th Congress. At the opening of that Congress in 1955 there were 232 Democrats and 203 Republicans. At the close, vacancies caused by death made the party alignment 230 to 201.

The Democrats won 11 seats and lost 9. But one of these gains were west of the Mississippi River. Conversely, Republicans gained seats in eastern urban districts.

Senate

The alignment at the time of writing this Newsletter is 49 Democrats and 47 Republicans the same as in the 84th Congress. Several factors, however, raise doubt that this alignment will prevail on January 3.

PURPOSE OF THIS NEWSLETTER

The purpose of this Newsletter is to discuss some aspects of the composition and procedures of Congress. Other Newsletters will deal with the issues before Congress. This one is written in the belief that it is helpful to know the make-up of the body that will deal with these issues, and to understand something of the way in which the House and Senate work.

In the discussion of procedures, emphasis will be put upon those practices which make possible or hinder orderly, full and open discussion of issues, with proper safeguards for the rights of both minority and majority.

First is the fact that two newly-elected Senators will probably not be present January 3. Governor Frank J. Lausche of Ohio, Democratic Senator-elect from that state, has indicated that he will not be sworn in until his term as governor ends January 14.

Attorney-General Jacob J. Javits, Republican, of New York, and newly-elected Senator from that state, does not plan to be sworn in until the Republican con-

trolled legislature of New York State meets January 9. They will then name his successor as Attorney-General.

A second complicating factor is found in Texas. Senator Price Daniel, Democrat, is also Governor-elect. He has resigned from the Senate, but the resignation does not take effect until January 15, when he will be sworn in as Governor.

If Senator Daniel is present January 3 to vote with the Democrats, and if Senators Lausche and Javits are not present, the Democrats will control the Senate.

Influence of Statehood for Alaska and Hawaii

Both parties are on record favoring statehood for Alaska and Hawaii. Alaska has already elected its Senators and one Representative, following a successful pattern set by six other states which used this method to persuade Congress to grant their claims to statehood. They are ready to take their seats at such time as their credentials are accepted. All three of them are Democrats.

Hawaii has not elected its Senators and the two Representatives it will be entitled to as a State. It is impossible to say whether it will vote Democratic or Republican. In 1956, however, it chose a Democrat as its Delegate to Congress for the first time since 1932.

Occupational Representation

Lawyers, as usual, comprise the largest occupational group, 56% in the House and 66% in the Senate. Next in order are the 30% of each House engaged in business or banking. Those engaged in agriculture form 11% of the House and 21% of the Senate (the percentages add up to more than 100 because many members give two occupations).

Women in the New Congress

There will be 16 women, the same number as in the 84th Congress. Fifteen are in the House, and one in the Senate. Nine of the women are Democrats. Six of the Republican women are in the House while one, Margaret Chase Smith of Maine, is in the Senate.

Seniority

The Democrats with longest service are Senator Carl Hayden of Arizona and Representative Sam Rayburn of Texas. Senator Hayden has served in the Congress for 44 years, ever since his state was admitted to the union in 1912, and he has been in the Senate since 1926. Congressman Rayburn is in his 43rd year of service in the House, and has served as Speaker longer than any person in American history.

The Republicans with longest service are Senator Styles Bridges of New Hampshire and Representative Daniel A. Reed of New York. Senator Bridges has been

in Congress for 20 years and is Chairman of the Republican Policy Committee. Representative Reed has served 38 years and is ranking Republican on the Committee on Ways and Means.

An Opposition Congress

If the Democrats control both houses, as seems likely, it will be the second time in American history that the voters have chosen a President of one party and a Congress controlled by the other party. The other occasion was in 1848 when Zachary Taylor was elected President.

At the same time President Eisenhower had more electoral votes than any Repub-

lican in history. This vote clearly testifies to the popularity of Mr. Eisenhower. It also shows the strong tendency of the American people to vote a split ticket.

It is difficult at this time to say how an opposition Congress will treat President Eisenhower's legislative program. *Congressional Quarterly*, a reference service on Congress, believes that the President's proposals "will fare just about as well in the new House as in the old." Of the Senate, it says that the President should "win somewhat diminished, but still comfortable bipartisan support" on major foreign policy matters.

CONGRESSIONAL PROCEDURES

Importance of Rules

For Congress to function effectively, it is necessary to follow established rules. A number of these rules are important both as they affect legislation in which the FCNL is interested and as they represent democratic procedure. The rules to be discussed in this section of the *Newsletter* are those relating to (1) committee chairmanships; (2) the power of the Rules Committee of the House; (3) the use of the Discharge Petition in the House; and (4) the filibuster and Rule XXII in the Senate.

The Role of Committees

Legislation involves a staggering work load. In the two years of the 84th Congress 16,782 bills were introduced. Of this number, 1,921 were enacted into law.

To make possible the consideration of the thousands of bills introduced, the House and Senate have developed the Committee system. There are 19 standing Committee in the House and 15 in the Senate.

Major work on legislation is done in committees. Some proposed laws are quickly pigeon-holed. Others are rejected. Still others are given hasty consideration, while the major items of legislation are given careful study. Sometimes a committee will hold hearings for weeks as did the House Committee on Ways and Means when it was considering the Reciprocal Trade Program in 1955.

The committees may sometimes hear a wide variety of viewpoints. Recently, for example, the House Committee on Ways and Means scheduled 50 witnesses in one week and 69 the next week to get views on excise taxes. At other times committees may act hastily even on important legislation, and may also hold secret sessions

Several Aspects of the Committee System Seem to Require Study and Possible Modification

1. *The policy of basing committee chairmanship on seniority.* This may bring in as chairman the most experienced man, but it does not automatically do so. It seems desirable that Congress reconsider its tradition here and find a way to give due weight to ability, interest and desire to promote legislation as set forth in the party platform, as well as to seniority.

2. *The tendency to hold secret sessions.* Thirty-six per cent of committee meetings in the 84th Congress were closed, or secret. These are held for several reasons. They may save time; they reflect the tendency to keep information from the public in the name of national security; they may stem from the belief that the public is not interested in the legislation.

One way to combat this tendency is for every interested person and group to let a committee know that they want public hearings on a matter of concern to them. This will make clear that the people are interested and in some instances will persuade a committee to hold open hearing

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3. *The tendency of a committee to defeat legislation that the majority of the committee does not like by refusing to report such legislation to the floor.*

Discharge Modification

There is a method to force legislation from committee. Those who wish House debate on a bill unreported by a committee for 30 days must secure the names of 218 Representatives to a Discharge Petition. The legislation is bottled up in committee then goes to what is known as a Discharge Calendar where it must remain at least seven days. The House may then vote on the second or fourth Monday for or against the motion to discharge. If the vote is for discharge, the House may vote for or against the legislation under question.

As should be evident, this procedure is cumbersome. It is so cumbersome, in fact, that it is rarely used successfully (about once each session on the average).

Recognizing the need for careful committee study of legislation, it seems desirable nevertheless to have a more effective way to discharge legislation from a committee which is obstructing it. One suggested approach here is to reduce the number of signatures required on a discharge petition from 218 to a smaller figure, say 100. Such a number would still indicate that a substantial part of the membership favored full and public consideration of the legislation.

The Rules Committee

Because of the size of the House, with 435 members, it is necessary to have rules that facilitate action. It is also necessary to have what may be called a traffic cop to keep the flow of business moving smoothly. The Rules Committee performs this function.

An example of an important function of this committee is as follows: a bill relating to education is reported favorably by the Committee on Education and Labor, which has been studying it and holding hearings for three weeks. The bill then goes to the Rules Committee, which has the responsibility to "report a rule" giving the time and conditions under which the bill will be brought to the House floor.

The Rules Committee may follow several alternatives. If it chooses not to act on the legislation under question it will pigeon-hole it.

If it does report on the legislation it will set conditions under which the bill is to be debated. It may, for example, set six hours for floor debate, and rule concerning the number or kinds of amendments that may be added from the floor. These recommendations are then approved or rejected by the House.

Repeated attempts have been made to curtail the power of this committee. In 1949 the House did so by deciding that the Rules Committee could bottle up legislation for only 21 days if the chairman of the committee that had favorably reported this legislation wished it to come before the House for debate. Such a chairman, by getting recognition from the Speaker, could offer a motion to have the legislation considered, and such a motion could carry by majority vote.

In 1951 the House restored to the Rules Committee its former powers. Now the one way to force from it legislation which it has bottled up is the discharge petition.

The FCML, in its Statement of Policy for 1957-58, has approved procedural change such as that adopted in 1949 by the 81st Congress. Such change would seem in keeping with democratic processes.

The Filibuster

The procedure in the Senate that is most significant, so far as democratic processes are concerned, is the filibuster.

A filibuster occurs when freedom of debate is used to obstruct legislation. This is a highly questionable practice, but it is not always easy to determine exactly when a minority is rightfully using freedom of debate to express deep concern over pending legislation, and when it is stubbornly blocking the will of the majority.

There is a method to end debate in the Senate. This method is found in *Rule XXII* which was adopted in 1917. It is so difficult to apply that it has been successfully used to stop debate only four times, the last time in 1927.

Rule XXII works as follows. One-sixth of the Senate, in other words sixteen Sen-

ators, sign a request to close debate. Passage of such a motion for closing debate (often called cloture or closure) requires a vote of 64 Senators, in other words two-thirds of the membership.

Until 1949 such a vote on cloture required only two-thirds of those present. According to a 1948 ruling, however, cloture could be applied only to a bill, and not to a motion to consider a bill.

So, in 1949, the Senate decided to make cloture apply to a motion to bring up a bill, but added the provision that the vote must be two-thirds of the membership.

The Senate exempted from Cloture any change in rules. Therefore cloture does not apply to the present *Rule XXII* which gives the provisions for cloture.

This is complicated, but it means that Senators may filibuster any proposed change in *Rule XXII* which would provide a stronger safeguard against filibusters.

Move to change Rule XXII: Senators who wish to change *Rule XXII* see one chance for success. That is to act under the assumption that the Senate which convenes on January 3 is a new body and has the right to establish a new set of rules.

Procedure here will involve having the presiding officer, Vice-President Richard M. Nixon, rule whether it is in order to take up new rules. If Mr. Nixon does so rule, and if the Senate upholds his decision by majority vote, the members may then proceed to adopt a new *Rule XXII* also by majority vote. It seems unlikely at this writing that *Rule XXII* will be changed.

If the Rule is changed, it is expected that a long overdue Civil Rights bill, helping to ensure the right of all to vote, will have better chance to pass. Such a bill may pass in spite of *Rule XXII*, but change in the rule will facilitate passage.

NOTE!

The discussion in the preceding columns is of necessity brief. For further information write the Friends Committee on National Legislation, 104 C Street, Washington 2, D. C. (enclosing 10 cents), requesting a copy of the pamphlet, "*Beliefs Into Action*"—or write for the specific information desired.

SOME BACKGROUND OF THE MIDDLE EAST

The Arab countries: Morocco, Tunisia, Algeria, Libya, Egypt, Sudan, Saudi, Arabia, Yemen, Syria, Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq, are united by language and culture, by the similar economic problems, and by a common heritage of foreign domination.

Basic economic needs are land and water. Without irrigation the land cannot support the present and still growing population. Yet this region is a source of natural wealth. U. S. corporations have extensive oil holdings in the Middle East, while Britain especially relies on income from oil to maintain her sterling balance.

Foreign domination of the Arab world has aroused bitter Arab resentment against "Colonialism" and intransigence toward Israel. British promises to Zionist leaders during World War I that Jewish people might have a national home in Palestine, British mandate immigration policy, and the resultant increase of the Jewish community in Palestine from one-tenth of the population in 1918 to about one-third in 1947 are all viewed as Western impositions by the Arab majority. Beyond expressing the urge in all societies to control their own affairs, national sovereignty has for these long-subject peoples the appeal of compensating their galling sense of inferior status—subjectively derived from the color and cultural prejudice of incoming Europeans, objectively derived from economic and cultural poverty.

Conflict in the Middle East broke out in 1947, when Great Britain, unable to resolve the antagonism between the Arabs and Jews, turned the problem of Palestine's future over to the UN. The General Assembly recommended partitioning Palestine along religious lines into two independent nations. This was not accepted by the Palestine Arabs or the Arab League countries which declared war on the new state of Israel as soon as it was proclaimed in 1948. Many Arabs from Israel fled to Arab countries during this war, and now over 900,000 Palestine refugees are registered with the UN Palestine Refugee Program, about one-third living in refugee camps. Their property was taken over by Jewish settlers and they have never been

compensated. The Arab states have insisted that they be given the right in principle to return to Israel, and have made settlement of their claims a prerequisite to general negotiation with Israel.

The UN has worked for a peace treaty since the 1948 truce, but Israel is still unrecognized by any of the Arab countries, and boundaries are still undefined.

Egypt continues to bar Israeli shipping from the Suez Canal in spite of a UN Security Council resolution in 1951 demanding that she cease doing so.

Meanwhile, revolt against French rule broke out in Algeria, and Egypt underwent a revolution. Gamal Nassar, Premier of Egypt since 1952, has proclaimed his determination to rid the Arab world of all vestiges of European "colonialism"—including Israel.

In 1955 the Baghdad Pact between Britain, Turkey, Iraq, Iran and Pakistan, aroused resentment in the Near East over what was thought to be new European penetration. In September the Egyptian cotton crop was mortgaged to buy arms from Communist countries and Israel attempted unsuccessfully to buy arms from the United States.

The U. S. and Great Britain offered Egypt half the funds necessary to build the Aswan Dam in December, 1955, and the International Bank offered the other half in January. But in July, the U. S. withdrew its offer on the ground that Egypt's economic commitment for arms would prevent her carrying through the project.

Nationalization of the Suez Canal Company was immediately announced by Premier Nassar, Fearing this might restrict use of the Canal, the U. S., Britain and France called a conference of twenty-four nations using the Canal. Egypt and Greece refused to attend, but eighteen nations drafted a plan for management of the Canal by an international board reporting to the UN. Egypt rejected this proposal as an invasion of her sovereignty. Negotiation under the auspices of the UN in October did produce agreement of all parties on the following principles: insulation of the Canal from the politics of any country, no discrimination against any

shipping, respect for Egypt's sovereignty agreement between Egypt and users on tolls, allocation of a "fair proportion" of dues for canal development, and arbitration of compensation for the Suez Canal Company.

War in Egypt exploded at the end of October when Israel invaded the Sinai Peninsula and Great Britain and France invaded Egypt on November 1, 1956.

WHAT HAPPENED TO HANNAH?

"What Happened to Hannah?" is probably the most useful (and entertaining) teaching device to come along in some years. This color filmstrip on social welfare problems, with 17 minute recording, is just what any local committee needs to stimulate interest in social concerns.

It may seem unlikely or even impossible to describe this filmstrip as both a highlight in entertainment and an event that will stir the social conscience of your church. But this is the case. Hannah is a lower-income, poorly educated woman with a crow-like voice who gets into the choir of a fancy suburban church. Mrs. Peabarker Busybones gets the assignment to inform Hannah that her "talents" are unappreciated and unwanted. But something happens when Mrs. Busybones goes to visit Hannah and therein lies a tale.

This filmstrip is a real professional job. The cartooning is good, the humor appropriate, and the message important. In connection with the filmstrip, and for use in guiding group discussion of the concern presented, your committee may obtain additional helps from a useful, local church study guide, "The Church's Social Ministry of the Local Church" by Muriel Webb, 30 cents. *Order from:* Christian Board of Publication, Box 179, Beaumont and Pine Blvd., St. Louis, Missouri.

Discussed in the filmstrip are such issues as the aging, housing, race, and the handicapped. Techniques for political and social action are suggested.

● The filmstrip may be rented from Audio-Visual Services of the United Christian Missionary Society, 222 S. Downey Avenue, Indianapolis 7, Indiana. Cost for rental is \$2.50.

HUNGARIAN REFUGEES

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ance Church World Service and other agencies do not wish to require the Hungarian refugees to remain in Camp Kilmer longer than necessary, it became necessary to radically modify Church World Service's policy of careful individual placement. Because of the speed with which the people have crossed the border into Austria and been transported to Camp Kilmer, New Jersey, no adequate interview or occupational documentation has been possible. Therefore a plan of community placement has been essential. Denominations, both individually and collectively, through Church World Service are prepared to send refugees to local churches and to councils of churches for their action in caring for groups of refugees and in working out their proper resettlement locally.

This is still church resettlement—only adding a substantial score of responsibility to councils and local churches to do an emergency job. There will be no dossier or case histories available from which churches or councils may choose their family or individual at first. Those people who will go to their destination when a group of sponsors make request to their denominational headquarters or council of churches for refugees.

Unsolvable Refugee Problem Not Solved

There is still the unsolved problem of these people who have been refugees for a number of years for much the same reason as the Hungarians must now flee to safety. To help these people, it will be necessary to make major revisions in the Carran-Walter Immigration Act or some other provision. Some suggested revisions made to the last Congress (but no action was taken) include: (1) A revision of the quota system to permit regular entry of nearly twice as many immigrants each year and to increase sharply the number from Hungary, Greece, Italy and other countries of Southern and Eastern Europe. (2) A means of shifting the quota from countries which do not use their full allotment to countries where there is a long waiting list. (3) Make the immigration law "more flexible."

ELLA L. WILLIAMS,
Field Representative,
Refugee Resettlement.

SUMMER OPPORTUNITIES FOR 1957

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opportunity for young people to become oriented in the social welfare field because Flanner House is located in one of the slum areas of Indianapolis. Its program is wide and varied which provides many interesting projects for work campers. Cost: \$100.00 plus travel.

Los Angeles, June 28-August 8; Avalon Community Center. 12 to 20 persons will work with local young people in painting and repairing club rooms, homes of needy neighbors, developing playground, etc. Cost: \$120.00 plus travel.

New Brunswick, Canada, June 24-August 5; Back Bay Community on rocky northern shore of the Bay of Fundy. 12 to 15 young people will construct one-story addition to the one room white frame church of the Back Bay Church of Christ. Cost: \$185.00 plus travel to Indianapolis.

Jamaica, B. W. I., June 24-July 22. 12 to 15 young people will work with Jamaicans to complete a building program sponsored by the Mission. Cost: \$325.00.

● MIGRANT MINISTRY. Central Region (Michigan, Illinois, Ohio, Indiana, Wisconsin, Minnesota, North and South Dakota): June 13 to September 5. Day nursery, vocational school, visitation, worship and recreation. Subsistence salary. Applicant pays travel to training conference and home from last assignment. Western region (San Joaquin and Santa Clara Valleys in Northern California and Oregon): July 1 to August 15. Program similar to that described for Central Region.

● INTERNSHIPS. Individual young people may apply for internships involving 8 to 12 weeks of experience in some phase of Christian service. Dates, specific projects and scholarship aid are arranged between the young person and the Department of Social Welfare.

● ECUMENICAL WORK CAMPS. Ecumenical camps will be held in the Far East and Europe during July and August. In June and July camps are scheduled in the U. S. at Los Angeles, California; Keyville, Georgia; La Plant, South Dakota; and Sitka, Alaska.

For information about any of these projects, including scholarship aid, write

Mrs. Ruth Milner, Department of Social Welfare, United Christian Missionary Society, 222 South Downey Avenue, Indianapolis 7, Indiana.

U. S. PRESTIGE SOARS During Middle East-Hungary Crisis

(Continued from Page 1)

sembly (1955-56) we backed Britain and France against anti-colonial movements in the Middle-East. U. S. leaders felt that they had to risk this sag in prestige in order not to upset the NATO alliance where Britain and France were the most important members. Our U.N. votes had clearly left Asians and Arabs with the impression that we had abandoned our traditional anti-colonial policy, or at best thought of it more as a tradition than a policy. When Ambassador Henry Cabot Lodge stood up in the General Assembly of the United Nations early in November and stated the U. S. position on aggression against Egypt a great deal of the anti-American feeling was washed away. People in the underdeveloped areas once more had the feeling that we were their friends and champions.

It was probably the action of the Soviets in Hungary, however, that will loom largest in the memories of the newly independent nations of the Far East and Middle-East. At first they showed little enthusiasm for condemning Russia. They preferred to concentrate on traditional colonialism which they understood and despised. But the weeks wore on and Hungarian citizens were still unreconciled to their fate. The lesson was unmistakably clear and the leaders of the East could not miss the point. Communism had failed and in a one-party totalitarian system it is difficult to remedy a failure without bloodshed. Most Asian leaders had been educated in the West and appreciated the values of parliamentary democracy. They could not help but have a profound distaste for the revealing events in Hungary in November and December of 1956.

How long can the United States continue on this high road of popularity? Most observers felt this would depend on whether our long run foreign policy was as good as our immediate reaction to the propaganda accidents of friends and foes.

ROBERT A. FANGMEIER



When Your Committee Meets

The Committee on Christian Action and Community Service in your church may find suggestions and help from the following list of events, projects and resources:

WHEN YOUR COMMITTEE MEETS

Suggested — A letter to congregations to increase attendance on Race Relations Sunday, February 10, 1957.

"Therefore, every Christian is confronted with the basic responsibility of working courageously for a non-segregated society. The task of conquering segregation is an inescapable must confronting the Christian churches. Much progress has been made toward the goal of a non-segregated society, but we are still far from the promised land. Segregation persists as a reality."

From a Statement issued by the Executive Board of the Division of Christian Life and Work, The National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A.

The complete statement of the National Council of Churches in connection with Race Relations Sunday, February 10, 1957, has been distributed to all ministers of the Disciples of Christ. The above quotation or a similar one might be included in a letter from the local committee to the entire congregation. Such a letter might:

1. urge all members to attend church services on Race Relations Sunday as an indication of their devotion to the Christian concept of the brotherhood of man.
2. suggest that all Christians pray for racial understanding and justice.
3. ask all Christians to assume some personal initiative to encourage better understanding among the races.

In addition to these suggestions, other ideas for Race Relations Sunday were included in the December Newsletter.

SOCIAL ISSUES STATEMENT AVAILABLE SOON

A pre-convention social issues statement will be available soon for study by local congregations. The statement will include suggested resolutions prepared by the Department of Social Welfare, UCMS, for presentation to the International Conven-

tion at Cleveland, October 10-16, 1957. The Department is issuing the suggested resolutions at this time in order that brotherhood churches may have ample time in which to study the proposals and make suggestions. Churches wishing to participate in the study and preparation of resolutions are asked to write the Department of Social Welfare, UCMS, and request a copy of the "social issues statement."

SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO UNITED NATIONS AND WASHINGTON, D. C.

The social action program of many churches is stimulated each year by attendance at a Citizenship Seminar of the minister, layman, laywoman or a young person. Each year several hundred individuals from Disciples churches attend either the two U.N. Seminars sponsored by the Department of Social Welfare, U.C.M.S., or the Churchmen's Washington Seminar in which Disciples cooperate with the National Council of Churches. You can send your minister or a key layman or laywoman to one of the two remaining events this year:

Churchmen's Washington Seminar

February 26-March 1, 1957. Registration, \$15.00. 29 openings available for Disciples on a first come first serve basis. Other expenses are hotel and transportation to Washington. More than 300 Protestants in all will take part in this conference on the theme of "Your Government and You." The program includes sessions

with top Administration and Congressional leaders.

United Nations Seminar, II.

April 29-May 2, 1957. Registration, \$15.00. 50 openings. This is an all Disciple affair, including ministers, laymen, laywomen and students. The theme of this conference will be World Economic Development. We spend two days at the U.N. in New York and then two days in Washington, D. C. Conferences are arranged with high-level world leaders at the U.N. and with Administration and Congressional leaders in the nation's Capital. In addition to the registration fee, hotel and travel expenses are to be considered.

For information about either Seminar write Robert A. Fangmeier, Department of Social Welfare, UCMS.

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